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The True View.
The late James J. Hill was a man of buoyant optimism. "Failures," he once said in an address to railway men, "are always pessimists. Successes, on the other hand, are optimists. Which is right?" He paused, then added: "It's easier to slip down hill than to climb up, but the view, remember, is at the top."

Goldfish.
Goldfish were first discovered in China, whence they were carried to Europe in the seventeenth century.

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Monday, August 28, 1916.

Of all the "dirty politics" we have seen during the past 40 years, this attack upon a sound, solvent bank, by leading state papers and by politicians seeking office, is the worst.—Morrisville Messenger.

Is it "dirty politics" to tell the business, political and legal record of a man who is a candidate for high office? Instead of calling names, Friend Thayer, why not put up a real argument? Most of us Vermonters are sincere and want to do right. If Senator Page didn't want to deceive the people of Vermont how do you explain his bank advertising of November and December 1912? If Senator Page was perfectly willing to pay taxes on his bank stock why didn't he put it in his list? You are so good at explaining things perhaps you can tell why the question of compelling the Page bank to obey the laws was before a legislative committee even no longer ago than 1915?

The cost of elections is a matter that disquiets all who desire good government. It may cost thousands to get elected even to a minor state office. Theoretically a poor man can be chosen to anything, but practically, since we have direct primaries, a barrel is more of a qualification than ever. There is no question about this.

The adoption of the direct primary plan puts a premium on the wealthy candidate for office. You can talk until you are black in the face about bringing the choice close to the people, as the Burlington Free Press pharisaically remarked the other day: "For the first time in history the voters of Vermont individually are being consulted by candidates for nomination for office directly." But this simply means that the more wealthy a candidate is the more thoroughly he can "individually consult" the voters. It costs money to consult. And the Free Press knows it, and so does everybody else outside the institution for defective children.—Rutland News.

The Banner thinks there isn't a word of truth or sense in the News' statement. The wealthy candidates spent money under the old system and will under the new unless restrained by a drastic corrupt practices law rigidly enforced. The primary law isn't responsible for the expense account. This is proved by the fact that the most expensive campaign ever fought in this part of the country was under the caucus and convention system—the McCullough-Proctor-Clement-Webb campaign of 1902. The direct primary compels candidates to come to the voters themselves instead of dealing with a few politicians in each town and naturally

some of the politicians don't like it, but we believe that the people will, after they have had a fair trial and come to understand the new system. The essential cost is less under the primary than under the old convention system and even if money is to be spent it is a mighty sight wiser to "consult" the voters than to "consult" a party boss in each town. Don't blame the primary law because Page and Fletcher are pouring out money in this campaign. Their predecessors did it under the old system and have ever since elections were invented. Read the history of elections in Rome and Greece two thousand years ago and don't try to blame the primary law for an abuse that is as old as civilization itself. The spending of money at elections and in nominations can be stopped but is a different issue entirely.

Sugar and Fruit.

Sometimes things happen to make us wonder if we are perceptive, long-headed, wonderfully acute Americans have as much common sense as we might have.

A few weeks ago, with a big strawberry crop, strawberries were a glut on the market. The strawberries were of fine quality and the price was low. But the price of sugar was high. Consequently no sale for strawberries. The sugar price made canning, even the extensive individual consumption of strawberry festivals, too expensive. For the same reason many a market gardener didn't even cut his rhubarb. He couldn't sell it. Sugar was too high.

Everybody saw the sugar price and shuddered. What many people didn't see was the price of the berries or the rhubarb, was forced so low that despite the price of sugar the combination could be purchased cheaper than ever before. One extensive grower in this vicinity avers that in order to rid himself of his crop, he might have given away, with profit, sixteen pounds of sugar with every crate of strawberries. But he didn't do it.

So much for a tiny incident in the economic life of a people who reflect in reverence and adoration upon how smart they are in business. Perhaps the marvelous development of our penetration in vision has reduced our horizon.—Hartford Times.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists. Price per bottle, 75c. This is a family pill for constipation.

The Lawyer Argument

"It is alleged that candidate Thomas H. Cave, Jr., of Barre, who wants to be state auditor, is not a lawyer and that, therefore, his fitness for the position is less than that of his rival, Maj. Ben Gates, who knows the science of law from blackstone down to the latest commentator. There is some force to the suggestion, as a knowledge of at least some law will be necessary to know whether many of the bills presented for payment are legal before they can be O. K'd. What have the friends of Mr. Cave to say to this objection to his candidacy? They had better say it quickly, as the September primaries are almost here."—Springfield Reporter.

It is not necessary to make a choice between the two candidates when discussing this phase of the contest for the auditorship nomination. If Mr. Cave has no more damaging argument advanced against him than that he is not a lawyer, he should not be greatly worried. But if nothing more can be advanced in favor of Major Gates than that he is a lawyer, then he should begin to worry.

Some people, it is noticeable that they are members of the legal profession for the most part, seem to think that it is essential that public offices be filled by lawyers. As a matter of fact, lawyers do fill most public positions, but the reason is to be found in their availability rather than from necessity.

The average business man as a rule, finds it impossible to fill public office and carry on his private affairs at the same time. The lawyer, on the other hand, sees in office holding a cheap and easy means to publicity of the best advertising kind, and he also finds the public salary a good bolstering up of the revenue of his private practice.

There is no valid reason why the state auditor should of necessity be a lawyer. Big business concerns do not make auditors out of lawyers. Railroad auditors are not lawyers. There is more efficiency in private enterprise than in public government. Business concerns have their legal department entirely separate from their accounting department.

So it is with Vermont. We have our attorney general. If the auditor does not clearly understand the law, he can call for an opinion from the state's legal talent. In short a man might be a most excellent lawyer and a mighty poor auditor. And it might well develop that a lawyer who is a lack of all trades might be weak in the law. The argument that a lawyer is needed in public office is an old one and has been carefully nourished by those most interested. There will be a general improvement in our political and governmental life when this fallacy is dispelled for all time.—St. Albans Messenger.

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WILL ATTACK RUMANIA

If She Enters War on Entente Side —Berlin None too Optimistic.

Berlin, Aug. 25.—Government circles though none too optimistic, view the Rumanian situation calmly taking the attitude that it is Rumania's next move. The feeling is that the central powers have done every thing possible to meet Rumania's views, and that Rumania, in persisting in the course desired by the entente and her own expansionist party, will find the central powers ready, in which event it is to be expected every effort will be made to insure that the new war theater is on Rumanian soil. Information from Vienna indicates that the Austro-Hungarian government, bearing in mind the results of the negotiations concerning Italy's claims before that nation entered the war, has been at no time disposed to offer Rumania similar concessions for fear that this again would be mistaken for a sign of weakness. At this moment there is not discernible the slightest effort to persuade Rumania of any other course than one due to her own initiative. The latest dispatches from Bucharest indicate a further cooling off of the war fever.

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